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SIPDIS

SENSITIVE
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DEPARTMENT FOR EEB/TRA HAYWOOD AND EUN/NCE PUTNEY
COAST GUARD ROTTERDAM FOR HUDSON AND BOYLES

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [EWWT](#) [PREL](#) [PGOV](#) [PL](#)

SUBJECT: POLAND: SMOOTH SAILING AHEAD FOR COAST GUARD PORT
SECURITY VISIT

11. (U) Sensitive but Unclassified. Not for Internet
distribution.

12. (SBU) Econoff accompanied a team of U.S. Coast Guard
officers to a meeting on January 29 with Polish officials to
discuss an upcoming port facility visit under the
International Port Security Program (IPSP). The Polish
participants included administrators from Poland's Maritime
Security Department as well as representatives of the port
operators from Gdynia and Szczecin. During the meeting, the
Polish officials pledged their full cooperation with the
Coast Guard to carry out the visit. The meeting participants
scheduled visits to Gdansk and Gdynia for February 26-27, and
Szczecin for February 28. They also identified specific
areas of the ports that would be focus of the visits.

13. (U) The IPSP is designed to help foreign ports carry out
the provisions of the International Ship and Port Security
Code (ISPS Code). The ISPS Code is part of the International
Convention on the Safety of Life at Sea, and sets out minimum
security arrangements for ships, ports, and coast guard
agencies. The U.S. Coast Guard conducts visits under the
IPSP to discuss issues of port security and share best
practices with foreign port operators and governmental
agencies.

14. (SBU) Comment: This visit was a pleasant change from
previous attempts to discuss port security with the GOP.
Under the previous government it was difficult to even meet
with GOP officials on maritime security issues. The
efficient, business-like meeting and promise to cooperate on
port security issues was good news for the USG and GOP. We
note that under the Kaczynski government, the Ministry of
Maritime Affairs was created and then led by a 26 year old
minister with no maritime or managerial experience. We
believe that this meeting is another indicator that business
is starting to return to normal under the new Tusk government.
ASHE